

Summary of the Interview

1. The telephonic interview was conducted on November 20, 2007.
2. Participants in the interview included Examiner Lee, Dr. Iqbal Ahmed, and Phil McCann.
3. Proposed amendments to claims submitted prior to the interview to Examiner Lee for his consideration are attached hereto as Appendix A.
4. References discussed included Mertens *et al.* and Inger *et al.*
5. In the interview, Dr. Ahmed explained in detail the details of the invention, in particular, the purpose of coating superabsorbent particles (SAP) in wet laid process, and the characterization of the coated SAP by the Free Water Absorption 15-second test. It was indicated that the SAP of this invention differs from that of the cited prior art in that the coating may be washed off. In contrast, the coating of the prior art is used to effect crosslinking, and therefore, the metal salts are not removable. Proposed amendments to claims were discussed in detail.